

STATUTORY PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS

The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013

In respect of a Governing Body Proposal: School and governing body's details

1. The name, address and category of the school for which the governing body are publishing the proposals:

Icknield Community College, Love Lane, Watlington, OX49 5RB. This is a community school run by Oxfordshire County Council, which is the Local Authority.

Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation

2. The date on which the proposals are planned to be implemented:

From 1 September 2015, to alter the upper age limit of the College from 16 to 19, in order to enable provision of a Sixth Form.

Objections and comments

3. A statement explaining the procedure for making representations:

Representations (responses) to the proposals can be made online using the feedback from at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consultation . Alternatively any person may respond by email to sixthform@icknield.oxon.sch.uk or in writing to: Diane Cameron, School Organisation & Planning, County Hall, FREEPOST OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Representations must be received by midnight on 29 September 2014.

Alteration description

4. A description of the proposed alteration

The Governing Body propose to extend the upper age limit of Icknield Community College from 16 to 19 in order to establish a Sixth Form from 1 September 2015.

Objectives

5. The objectives of the proposals.

- Positive impact on the aspirations of students at Icknield Community College.
- Continuity of education for students enrolled at the College, who currently must leave to continue their education at age 16.
- Improved parental choice for families in Watlington and the wider area, a rural area with relatively few post 16 options, when choosing where to apply for a school place, or where to study post-16.
- Positive impact on the school in that offering post-16 education makes it a more attractive choice for families when they transfer from primary school to secondary school.
- Positive impact on the recruitment and retention of high quality staff.
- Reduction of travel time for students who currently must travel a significant distance to access post-16 education.
- Reduction of costs for families caused by significant travel distances to other post-16 centres from Watlington.
- Reduction of traffic on roads and subsequent positive environmental impact as fewer lengthy journeys to other centres and back will be made.
- Positive impact on the local community: there is no post-16 provision available in Watlington currently.

Project costs

6. Project costs and how these will be met:

There will be costs to the school for, in the first instance, two additional members of teaching staff and one member of support staff. The school will be utilising existing capacity of teaching staff to deliver most of the increased provision. The day to day revenue costs for repair and maintenance and staffing costs must be met through the school's delegated individual school budget.

Funding for post 16 students in schools, colleges and Academies is via national funding formula determined by the Education Funding Agency (EFA). We have discussed the formula they currently use to calculate funding with a representative from the EFA. The formula for the academic year starting in August 2015 would normally be based on lagged pupil numbers i.e: the number of students participating in the previous academic year. However, to assist with start-up costs there are slightly different calculations in the first two years. From here onwards, funding is allocated in the normal.

POST-16 Capacity: 120

EXPENDITURE	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018
	Est.	Est.	Est.
Courses: total on offer	17 A-Level courses	18 A-Level courses	18 A-Level courses
	Citizenship plus EPQ	Citizenship plus EPQ	Citizenship plus EPQ
Additional Staff costs per annum	£88 921	£123 917	£191 990
Additional resources			
Books/consumables/equipment	£25 000	£40 000	£40 000
Capital costs	£45 000		
Examination costs	£1 000	£12 000	£15 000
Total	£71 000	£52 000	£55 000
Total predicted costs	£159 921	£175 917	£246 990

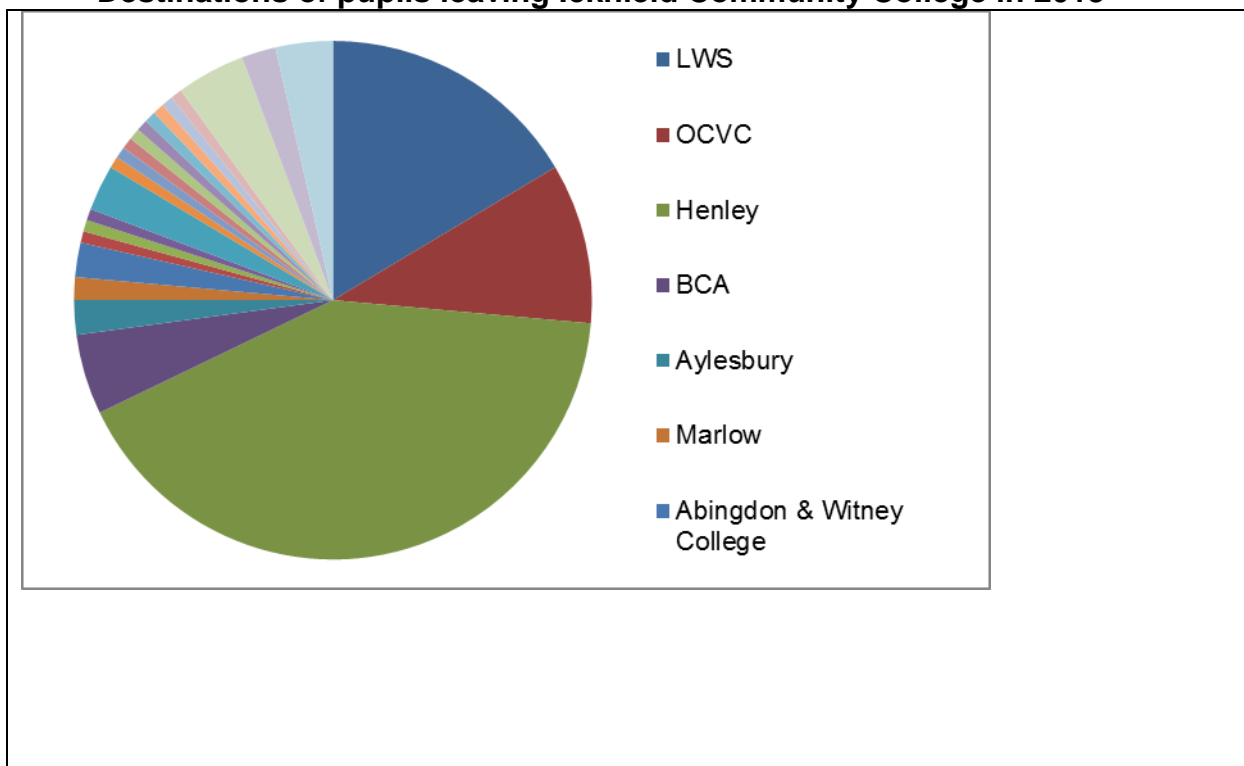
INCOME	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018
PUPIL NUMBERS			
Y12	35	45	60
Y13	0	35	45
Total Post-16 roll	35	80	105
PUPIL INCOME			
TOTAL POST-16	£160 000	£280 000	£320 000

These projections are based upon the pupil numbers detailed above, and the current funding formula given by the EFA. Depending on actual numbers of students in 2015-16, we may adjust the amount we spend on books, consumables and equipment in subsequent years. We are also aware of the possibility of further post-16 funding cuts by the EFA whilst they review their funding formulae in summer 2014.

Changes to sixth form provision

7. The effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions within the area:

Destinations of pupils leaving Icknield Community College in 2013



Institution	Number of Students
Lord Williams's in Thame	23
OCC	14
Henley College	58
BCA	7
Aylesbury	3
Marlow	2
Abingdon & Witney College	3
Wycombe College	1
Guildford	1
Oxpens, Oxford	1
Amersham & Wycombe	4
Fish Management Sparsholt	1
Trowbridge College Wiltshire	1
Queen Mary's	1
Bisham Abbey Academy	1
Wellbeck Army College	1
Wallingford	1
Employment	1
South Devon College	1
South Essex College	1
Other	6
No Longer on Roll	3
No Contact	5

The destinations data above demonstrates that no single post-16 provider currently receives the majority of Icknield students. Henley College currently receives the largest number of ICC students. We would expect Henley College to continue to receive many of our students as, due to the larger size of the institution, they offer a considerably wider range of courses (include vocational courses) and a very different environment to Icknield. Lord William's School, in Thame, receives the second highest number of students. This school is currently oversubscribed and, due to its size, again offers a very different environment and experience. We feel that we can offer a sixth form provision that is different to these two institutions. Our consultation to date demonstrates that there is a demand for this offer.

The distances to the nearest post-16 centres from Watlington are:

- Wallingford 9 miles
- Henley 11 miles
- Thame 12 miles
- Oxford 21 miles

When compared to most other parts of Oxfordshire, it could be argued that there are not any other 'local' institutions providing 'post-16' education. This proposal is creating another choice for young people in Watlington and its surrounding settlements.

A statement as to how the new places will fit within the 16-19 organisation in an area:

During the previous public consultation on the proposal, held by the Governing Body (9 June – 7 July 2014), no objection was received from any of the post-16 centres currently used by students from Icknield Community College.

The school intends to offer academic sixth form courses that will enable students to progress to the highest achieving Russell Group universities. Those Russell Group universities prioritise A-Levels in the 'facilitating subjects' when considering applications. These subjects are emboldened in the table below. The school also believes that students should consider a broader range of subjects and, at the time of writing, expect to be able to offer the following A-Level courses:

Maths	French	Physical Education
Further Maths	Spanish	Art
English Literature	Biology	Computing
English language	Physics	Music
Geography	Chemistry	Design Technology
History	Philosophy & Ethics	Economics / Business Studies
Psychology	Sociology	

8. Evidence of demand

During the earlier public consultation, the majority view of responses received (40 out of 41) was in favour of the proposals, with many strongly in favour. One view given was neither in favour nor against the proposal. There were no responses received that were against the proposal. The reasons provided for supporting the proposal included:

- Continuity of education from 11-19.
- Equity of provision when compared to other areas.
- Reduced travel costs for families and time for students.
- Increasing the aspirations of younger students.
- A different type of Post-16 provision to those currently on offer for young people in the area.

A public meeting was held at the College on 30 June 2014. Once more, nobody at the public meeting commented that the proposal should not go ahead.

Local residents, particularly those with children still at primary school, have written of their belief that Watlington as a town should have post-16 educational provision.